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FEBRUARY 7.

The President, Dr. LEIDY, in the chair.

Twenty-two persons present.

Filaria of the Black Bass.—Prof. LEIDY stated that he had been told that the black bass, *Micropterus nigricans*, in some localities is much infested with a red thread worm. One procured in market a few days since for his table, was found to be greatly infested. The worms were coiled in oval masses from the size of a pea to that of a large bean, and were situated beneath the skin, in the muscles and under the membrane lining the abdomen. The worm is cylindrical, slightly narrowed and obtusely rounded at both ends, minutely annulate and otherwise smooth, pale red, bright red, or brownish red, translucent, with the darker red, or brownish intestine and the white œsophagus shining through. Mouth a small pore, unarmed; anus a transverse elliptical pore, terminal. Œsophagus long, capacious, cylindrical, straight or somewhat tortuous, slightly expanded below where it is constricted from the intestine, which is likewise expanded at the commencement, and ends in a short, more translucent rectum. Ovarium and ova indistinctly seen. Length from 3 to 6 inches by half a line in diameter.

The worm appears to be a *Filaria*, but the determination of the species was left for more extended observation.

FEBRUARY 14.

Mr. MEEHAN, Vice-President, in the chair.

Twenty-six persons present.

Sponges from the neighborhood of Boston.—Mr. E. POTTS exhibited some fragments of fresh-water sponges collected in the Cochituate Aqueduct and sent to him by the Superintendent of the Boston Water Works. Alluding to the deleterious effects recently attributed to this sponge, as the cause of the pollution of the Boston water-supply, he said he was not prepared either to affirm or deny it. While he was well aware that a decaying fresh-water sponge was one of the foulest things in nature, in his own experience he had never met with it in sufficient quantities, locally, to suppose it capable of tainting, in its decay, millions of gallons of water, as now represented.

An examination of the sponge as to its specific relations, revealed some peculiar facts. Primarily it was evident that the sponge was